

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20030

The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the ability of individuals to provide adoption services without licensure, liability insurance, and the oversight of an adoption agency. Several years ago the state needed individuals to perform these functions but licensed agencies are now able to deliver these services throughout the state. Current statute provides little ability to regulate these services for the Department and adequate oversight would create an increasing workload for decreased staff. Current adoption services provided by these individuals are of inconsistent quality, and have generated concerns from individual citizens, private adoption agencies, and the courts.

FISCAL NOTE

Currently, the Department of Health and Welfare incurs an average cost of \$2,450.00 per month or \$29,400.00 annually to provide oversight to Certified Adoption Professionals. Certified Adoption Professionals pay a fee of \$30 for Department review of supervision or updated home study reports and \$50 for Department review of home studies or court reports. Overall the Department expects to see a net savings to be approximately \$15,000, with \$7,500 of that savings being general funds.

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